



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

MESA HOUSING AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD

March 25, 2010

The Mesa Housing Authority Governing Board of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 25, 2010 at 7:33 a.m.

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Smith, Chairman
Alex Finter
Dina Higgins
Kyle Jones
Dennis Kavanaugh
Dave Richins
Scott Somers
William M. Egan, Sr.

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Debbie Spinner
Linda Crocker

Chairman Smith welcomed Gilbert Mayor John Lewis and Gilbert Interim Town Manager Colin DeWitt to the Mesa Housing Authority Governing Board meeting.

1. Conduct a public hearing to discuss the 2010 Streamlined Annual Public Housing Authority Plan (PHA) and FY 2010-2014 Five Year Plan.

Chairman Smith announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing to discuss the 2010 Streamlined Annual Public Housing Authority Plan (PHA) and FY 2010-2014 Five Year Plan.

Housing and Revitalization Director Carolyn Olson addressed the Board and stated that staff was seeking their approval of the 2010 Streamlined Annual Public Housing Authority Plan (PHA) and the FY 2010-2014 Five Year Plan.

Boardmember Egan thanked Chairman Smith for reappointing him to the Governing Board. He expressed support for the Plan and also encouraged the other Boardmembers to support the Plan. He also acknowledged Ms. Olson and her staff for their efforts and hard work throughout the year. Mr. Egan added that he was a lifelong supporter of the Chicago Cubs and said he hoped the team would continue to come to Mesa for spring training.

Chairman Smith thanked Boardmember Egan for his service.

Boardmember Richins commented that in reviewing the materials provided by staff, he did not see any reference to the fact that the Mesa Housing Authority was promoting homeownership/affordable homeownership as one of its goals. He stated that he would like to see the inclusion of such verbiage before he could approve the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan.

Ms. Olson responded that the Housing and Revitalization Division lost its U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding for a Homeownership Coordinator and stated that the remaining staff has assumed those responsibilities. She noted that vouchers are still available for homeownership, but said the program was not as extensive as it was in the past due to limited staffing.

Boardmember Richins acknowledged Ms. Olson's explanation, but reiterated that it was nevertheless important to include affordable homeownership as a stated goal of the Mesa Housing Authority. He said that other organizations, instead of City staff, could assist Mesa in achieving such a goal.

In response to a question from Chairman Smith, City Attorney Debbie Spinner clarified that under State law, the Board could direct staff to amend the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan to include Boardmember Richins' suggestion as a goal of the Mesa Housing Board rather than asking staff to redraft the document and bring it back at a later date.

Ms. Olson concurred with Ms. Spinner's comments and stated that there was nothing in the HUD regulations that would prevent staff from amending the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan since the document has not yet been released for public comment. She explained that the public comment period begins on March 31st and said that it would be necessary for the Board to approve the document today.

Boardmember Richins expressed his displeasure with the fact that the Boardmembers often receive their backup materials on short notice and are then required to take action on an item without sufficient time to discuss the matter. He stated that he would not approve the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan with a stipulated amendment and would prefer to see the final document prior to taking action.

Boardmember Higgins concurred with Boardmember Richins' comments and stated that with the volume of information that has been provided to the Board, in her opinion, it would be appropriate to delay action on this item. She added that she would also like to review the final document prior to the Board taking action.

Ms. Olson read the following verbiage listed under Section 6.0 of the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan (**See Attachment 1**), which the Board may wish staff to include as a stated goal and objective of the Mesa Housing Authority:

"Homeownership HCV Program: The City of Mesa Housing Authority operates a HCV Program, Homeownership Program. Currently there are 15 Housing Choice Vouchers allocated for the program and 9 are being utilized at this time. In the upcoming year it is anticipated that 3 to 5 more vouchers will be utilized for the Homeownership Program."

Boardmember Richins requested that the verbiage read by Ms. Olson be included in the PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan as a stated goal and objective of the Mesa Housing Authority.

Chairman Smith declared the public hearing closed.

2. Take action on a resolution authorizing the approval of the 2010 Streamlined Annual Public Housing Authority Plan (PHA) and the FY 2010-2014 Five Year Plan.

It was moved by Boardmember Richins, seconded by Boardmember Somers, that Resolution No. HGB10-1 be adopted, with the addition of language contained in Section 6.0 of the Public Housing Authority (PHA) 5-Year and Annual Plan (as it relates to Homeownership HCV Program) being crafted as a stated goal and objective of the Mesa Housing Authority, and that such language be brought back to the Board for their review.

Carried unanimously.

3. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Mesa Housing Authority Governing Board meeting adjourned at 7:44 a.m.

SCOTT SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LINDA CROCKER, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Mesa Housing Authority Governing Board Meeting of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 25th day of March 2010. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

LINDA CROCKER, CITY CLERK